



ARC 63
CAMERON

WELTHINS

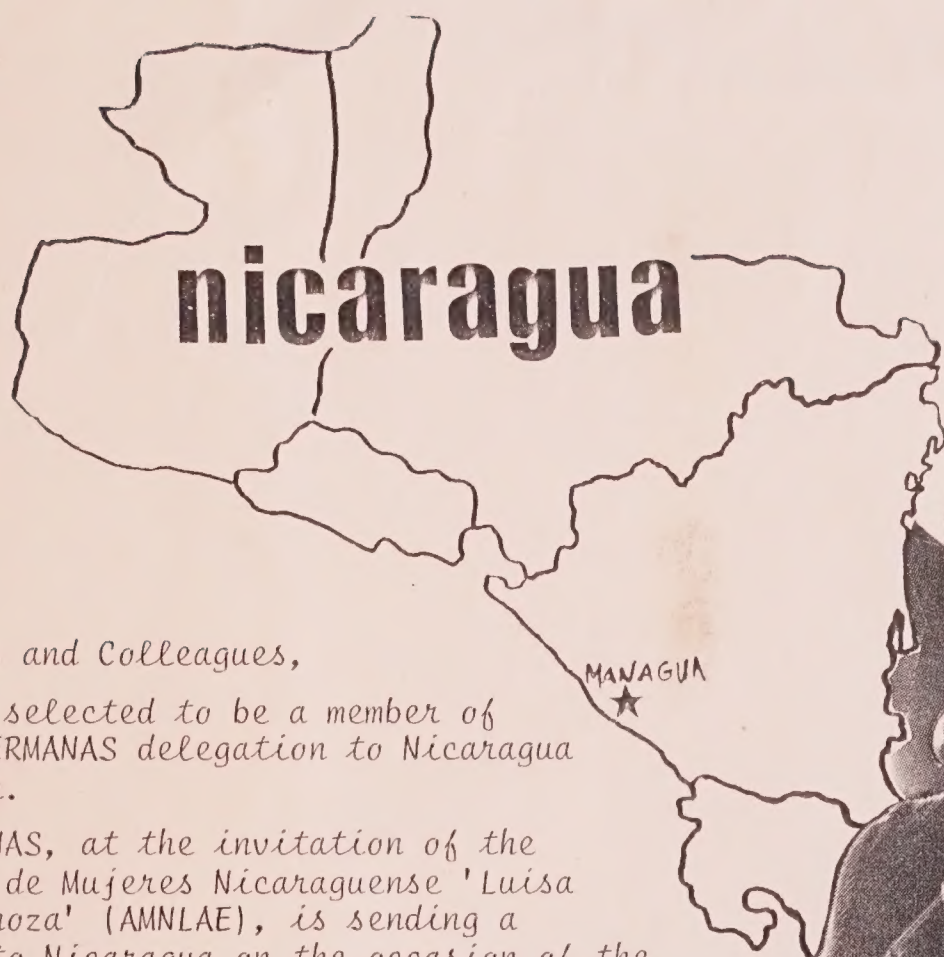
NICARAGUA

FUNDRAISER,

[1986]

[2 pages]

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I have been selected to be a member of the SOMOS HERMANAS delegation to Nicaragua in September.

SOMOS HERMANAS, at the invitation of the Asociacion de Mujeres Nicaraguense 'Luisa Amanda Espinoza' (AMNLAE), is sending a delegation to Nicaragua on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of AMNLAE. AMNLAE is the women's movement of Nicaragua and, as such, represents over 70,000 Nicaraguan women. AMNLAE members have been declared "military" targets by the contras.

SOMOS HERMANAS (We are Sisters), formed on the West Coast in 1984 in solidarity with the women of Central America, now has chapters nation wide. The Bay Area chapter has been working on an ambitious fundraising campaign to help rebuild childcare centers destroyed by the contras. As the campaign brochure states:

"Nicaraguan women have bitterly noted the irony of how money taken from childcare centers in the U.S. is used to destroy childcare centers in Nicaragua."

Because SOMOS HERMANAS is committed to fundraising for the Nicaraguan people, it is virtually impossible for the organization to provide the \$1200 (air fare, meals, lodging) it will cost each member of the delegation, which is multi-racial and includes lesbian and straight women from many U.S. cities. Through my associations with you as friends and colleagues, I believe you to be of humanitarian views; therefore, I am asking you to be a sponsor of my trip.

I believe it is critical for our survival to develop and express an international perspective. For most of us, our understanding of Nicaragua comes from mainstream media. And all of us have some direct experience with the establishment's distortion of truth.

This delegation provides an opportunity for one of us to experience the realities of life in Nicaragua. Ronald Reagan's international perspective is that every country is a backyard of the United States. (of course if he truly viewed Nicaragua as his backyard, perhaps he'd plant roses instead of bombs) The fact that Nicaragua is



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